Objectives

1) To meet the new group in the South replacing Umoja Ilela called Makunguru

2) To train the two Makunguru users in basic computer skills

3) To train existing RITS groups, Kihuka and Mahenge, in the CPU expenses spreadsheet and how to use the iPad to survey farmers

4) To introduce all the groups to the first draft of the new RITS on excel and to gather feedback

Tuesday 27th March

Chambo Augustine and Carly Griggs arrived at the Kilicafe office in Mbinga on Tuesday

morning. The first part of the day was spent introducing Makunguru to Sustainable Harvest and explaining the changes made to the RITS system and the reasoning behind the changes. In the afternoon Kihuka and Mahenge users helped Carly Griggs with the beginning of the basic computer training for Makunguru. Meanwhile, Chambo Augustine trained Kilicafe's Southern Accountant, Joseph, in the CPU expenses spreadsheet and in how to use GoogleDocs effectively as part of Kilicafe's organizational communication.

Wednesday 28th March

On Wednesday, Carly Griggs spent the day training the Makunguru new users in basic computer skills, including an introduction to the internet and its uses. Chambo and Joseph trained the Kihuka and Mahenge users in how to use the CPU expenses spreadsheet to track operational expenses at the washing station level.

Thursday 29th March

On Thursday the team experienced some initial problems with the internet at the office so the trainings started a little late. Carly Griggs continued with some exercises in basic computer skills with Makunguru whilst Chambo and Joseph completed some exercises with Kihuka and Mahenge in CPU expenses tracking. In the afternoon, Chambo taught Kihuka and Mahenge how to survey farmers using the iForm application on the iPad. This data will be analyzed by an M&E consultant in Portland, Oregon and a detailed summary of finding will be included in the RITS Pilot End Of Project Report. Chambo also trained the groups in how to use RITS Ed to conduct agronomy trainings at the field level.

Conclusions

Despite the distance from the Sustainable Harvest office in Moshi, Kihuka and Mahenge continue to excelled with the RITS program. They are genuinely interested participants with a great amount of retained knowledge in computer use from the 2011 trainings.

They were confident and proud trainers on Tuesday 27th and were fully understood by Makunguru. Joseph was very interested in using technology to track CPU expenses and was also a solid trainer. In Mbinga, RITS will successfully continue to expand beyond the scope of the USAID/COMPETE grant due to the eagerness of the Kilicafe staff and farmers to pass down their knowledge.

Makunguru continued well with the basic computer trainings and will benefit from practice in the coming weeks, as well as guidance from Kihuka users which reside nearby. All three groups will attend training in the new RITS on excel in May and Carly Griggs has decided to ask Joseph alongside Kihuka and Mahenge to train the new groups in the CPU expenses spreadsheet beforehand to integrate the Southern and Northen users and create a sustainable network.